

# THE PACIFIC Commercial Advertiser.

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SATURDAY : : : FEBRUARY 24

The labor flurry at the Kalihi camp appears to be over, thanks to the good offices of the Japanese Consul, whose general reasonableness under sharp pressure from his countrymen is appreciated here and will be, we hope, by his Government.

The Brisbane dispatch turns out as we expected. Its substance was reported and contradicted in San Francisco at least twenty-four hours before the Coast flies left for Honolulu. Buller had indeed crossed the Tugela, but had not been able to stay there.

We are bound to say that investigation does not show ulterior motives on the part of the Board of Health in connection with the Hotel stables. That phase of the discussion may as well be dismissed. The Board appears to be acting conscientiously enough, but with what the Advertiser and the greater part of the public believes with inconsistency and wrong judgment.

The first number of the long-expected Maui News, G. B. Robertson, editor and proprietor and Mrs. G. B. Robertson, business manager, has reached this city, hailing from Wailuku. It is a six-column quarto and is newsworthy and interesting despite the fact, as editorially announced, that shipping intelligence and some outside news was "crowded out by a rush of very important plate matter." The editor promises to make the News better as he goes along, and in that work we wish him every success. He has a good start and is in a virgin field. Good luck to him.

A correspondent of an evening paper suggests, as a reason for the backwardness of the Board of Health in the matter of the Hotel stables, that Dr. Wood and his associates have come to the conclusion that they have been burning buildings unnecessarily and that it is time to turn over a new leaf. The Board will hardly thank its apologist for this defence. If it were true the Board would be in the position of confessing judgment in heavy damage claims. It is not going to do that any more than it is going to repudiate the testimony of the whole town and of its own members, touching the remedial efficacy of sanitary fires.

The Advertiser continues its interviews on the subject of the Hotel stables. The majority of the citizens who have been seen and their views reported say that it is better to be on the safe side and burn the property. Others who will not talk for publication put the need of a sanitary fire in stronger terms. There is great fear that fresh cases may develop if the stables are permitted to remain, and on that account the public believes that the radical policy should be followed. If the Board has doubts, it should give Honolulu, rather than a few private owners, the benefit of them.

## STRANDED SOLDIERS.

There is a good chance for General Joe Wheeler to add to the public respect for his many qualities by coming to the relief of the twenty-two discharged enlisted men, all or most of them lately in hospital, who want transportation to San Francisco to escape the need of charity here.

These men could be taken away on the transport Warren. An application in their favor has been refused by the captain of the transport on the ground that their presence on board might quarantine the ship at San Francisco and thus interfere with General Wheeler's plans to reach Washington promptly and take his seat as a member of Congress. On this account twenty-two poor fellows, homesick and penniless, may be left here indefinitely to be cared for by a city which now has some thousands of indigent and homeless Asiatics on its hands.

Possibly the captain of the transport has not given the true reason for his course. The fear of quarantine for himself and his officers may be his real motive. If so, it is an illogical one, for, if San Francisco's health officials want to quarantine the Warren they will find plenty of cause as things stand in the fact that the ship is being coaled and stevedored by a part of Honolulu's waterfront population which has taken ten chances from the plague where the stranded soldiers have taken one. On the other hand, if the reason given is the correct and only one, then it would be most becoming in General Wheeler, as a soldier and a gentleman, to intervene and help his unfortunate comrades even at some risk of personal inconvenience to himself.

We hope and believe that General Wheeler will see his duty clearly. A representative Southerner rarely misses a point of honor and a gallant and chivalrous General thinks of his humble and unfortunate comrades in the ranks before he thinks of himself.

## THE STABLES ONCE MORE.

Dr. Wood's reply to the Citizens' Sanitary Committee, printed elsewhere, does not add materially to the public knowledge of the Hotel stables affair.

It indulges in a strain of mock gratification at the committee's statement; fences through another paragraph as to what the argument of the committee is, and states that the Board of Health has in no instance ordered the destruction of the property without inspecting it and considering the evidence, a fact which nobody has denied. More than half of the letter is devoted to a detailed discussion of why certain buildings in which there had been no plague, mentioned in the committee's letter were burned, and concludes with the statement that "the only announcement yet made that the Hotel stables are not to be burned occurred in the headlines of the morning paper for which the Board declines responsibility."

If the subject matter and the results to the community involved in the final action of the Board were not of such a serious character we might characterize this reply as special pleading. But the Advertiser is in no humor to bandy words with the Board, or to try and undermine the confidence of the community in its wisdom and efficiency. Thirteen of the officers and employees of the Gazette Company have been engaged in doing inspection and guard duty during the past two months, in addition to which the entire literary and mechanical staffs of this paper have been untiring in efforts to aid the Board by every means within their power to accomplish one common result—the suppression of the plague. So we cannot be accused of trying to hamper the sanitary work.

In the stand this paper has taken upon this subject it would be false to its convictions and to the community if it did not voice the overwhelming sentiment and plainly tell the Board that its action, or failure to act, in this matter is doing more to shake public confidence in that body than would an acre of newspaper criticism. Nothing that this paper can say or that it may leave unsaid will change the fact that two cases of plague have come out of the Hotel stables, and that thirty-one days after the first case and five days after the second, there is no move on the part of the Board to destroy the premises although no exemption of any other building has been made under similar circumstances since the burning policy was initiated six weeks ago, while scores of buildings in which there has been no case have been burned on suspicion that they might be infected.

The conclusion of Dr. Wood's letter would seem to indicate that the Board may yet burn the stables. If the Board still has the subject under consideration, then in all earnestness and in the interest of the Board and of the cause, a decision cannot be arrived at too quickly, both because it will relieve intense public feeling upon the subject, and because the sooner plague germs are put beyond the possibility of harm the better. Promptness of action is as essential as action itself.

## LESSONS OF BULLER'S DEFEAT.

The steamer Charles Nelson arriving at Makaweli, Kauai, brought Coast newspapers of the 10th and 11th insts., but none of them found their way to Honolulu on the inter-island steamers which came yesterday. The only knowledge we have of their contents is through private correspondence. Mr. Freese, chemist of the Makaweli plantation, in a letter to Mr. Scott of Canton, Neill & Co., says: "The San Francisco papers of February 11th received on the Nelson state that Buller had been forced back across the Tugela river again." As this news accords with that of the Advertiser's Associated Press special service up to noon of the 9th, it is not an occasion for surprise. It was painfully apparent in our own advice that Buller, in trying to force the entrenched sharpshooters of Joubert's army had taken too big a contract and was about to suffer the consequences.

The trouble with the British Generals is that they are as hide-bound by military tradition as were the Germans and Austrians whom Napoleon demoralized by his genius for original campaigning. Like Bourbons they learn nothing and forget nothing. The student of military history will see no difference between the tactics employed by White, Gatacre, Methuen and Buller in turn and those which wrought the ruin of Braddock in the Pennsylvania wilderness and of Pakenham at New Orleans. Confronting a concealed line of perfect marksmen these British Generals order their commands to fix bayonets and advance, officers and men disdaining cover and depending upon dash and discipline for success. The history of all wars shows that this is a fatal policy. The instances where well-manned entrenched positions have been carried by assault are few and far between. In nine cases out of ten such positions have to be reduced by siege or by concentrating a superior number of well-trained guns for bombardment; in the tenth case, success is usually due to a demoralized and inefficient defense such as was exhibited by the French after the initial disasters of the war with Prussia and by the Spaniards at El Caney and San Juan hill in the American skirmish with Spain. For

the usual course of things witness Grant's unsuccessful effort to carry the works at Vicksburg and Petersburg, Banks' failures at Port Hudson, Burnside's at Fredericksburg and Lee's at Gettysburg. These are bloody examples of the futility of leading the bravest men into the open to attack men equally brave and numerous and well-armed behind earthworks.

It is as the United Service Gazette (British) remarked awhile ago. The whole theory of tactics must be altered or the British in South Africa must accept ultimate defeat. There is no other remedy. But one way offers to meet the Boers in the hills and that is to approach them from tree to tree and rock to rock and give them as good as they send; to enter, in fact, upon a gigantic guerilla war. This may be galling to the proud-spirited British officers with their traditions of upright valor but it cannot be so galling as defeat. And defeat is as sure for Roberts as for Buller if he undertakes to crush the rock by the impact of the wave.

## OF CURRENT INTEREST.

### Big Cargo of Ammunition.

The steamship Karani has left the Thames with one of the heaviest cargoes of war material which has ever been despatched from the British shores. Amongst the ammunition on board are 40,000,000 rounds of small arm ammunition in 3,640 boxes, 7,000 rounds of shrapnel and common shell, and 4,000 rounds of five-inch lyddite shell in 2,000 boxes, 851 boxes of fuses, and 40 boxes of pistol ammunition. There is also on board a large quantity of star shell by which the enemy's position can be ascertained after dark and their camps shelled during the night. Each shell contains six stars of magnesium light, the composition burning between thirteen and fourteen seconds, and stars of signal light composition, burning between thirty-four and thirty-six seconds. The shell is fired by a time fuse, and by the adoption of a code of different colors communication can be kept up between two bodies of British troops who may be located a considerable distance from each other. Scotland Yard detectives have been watching the Karani, as a precaution against incendiary Boer spies. The guards at the powder magazine in Plumstead Marshes and at Purfleet have been doubled. The Karani will fly her yellow flag until she gets out of British waters as a caution to all craft to keep at a respectful distance.

### 'Uncle Sam's' Exposition Hat.

A plaster of paris design for an "Uncle Sam" hat—probably the largest in the world—containing within its crown practical models for upwards of 200 distinct styles of hats worn by twenty-three nationalities, will be sent from Philadelphia to the Paris exposition. The huge composite model is the work of a Philadelphia, who first conceived the idea of the unique exhibit, the Record says, about a year ago. The total height of the big model is fifty-six inches; the brim of the hat is twelve feet in circumference, and its crown is forty-eight inches tall. The smaller models are so ingeniously constructed that they fit snugly into each other and form a column in four sections. This column is of such dimensions that it fits into the hollow crown of the large model and when placed in position the model for Uncle Sam's large hat has the appearance of one piece of solid plaster work.

### Sandalwood Perfumes.

Some stores keep sandalwood incense that costs a lot. A little of it burned in one's clothes closet will impregnate all one's wear with this pungent odor. Bits of the wood can be bought, with a little panel of carving, to show that it is not a mere kindling stick. The odor from this is everlasting and more delicate than the incense, says the New Orleans Picayune. Sandal sachet is also used, but it should be taken from the little envelope in which it comes and smothered in cotton, or it will give too strong an odor. One of the sticks scraped in a China silk bag gives still another grade of this scent. A sandalwood fan laid away among laces and fine handkerchiefs will serve as well as anything. Sandal-scented soap is said to give the required fragrance to the hair, but you must be sure that it is a good shampoo soap as well.

### Shirts at \$12 Apiece.

The expensively dressed man, who likes to know that all his garments are the finest that can be made, may now wear shirts that cost \$12 apiece. Up to this time the highest price for men's shirts in New York has been \$7 or \$8. But now a Broadway merchant advertises shirts of batiste-chiffon, the material of which is woven of a special kind of flax, the webbing dried through varying temperatures, tempering the fiber after the manner of steel. The air must be kept moist, and the shuttles work under water. It is not shown that the shirts are so very much better than those which cost only half as much. But they are finer, and they are expensive, and that is a great deal to a fastidious man with money enough to indulge his fancies.

### The Injured Husband.

"La Gaceta," a paper published in Guadalajara, Mexico, part in English and part in Spanish, prints in a prominent place the following:

#### A CARD.

Will the gentleman who embraced my wife at the entrance to the post-office about 9 o'clock Thursday evening please send me his photograph for my "Album of Heroes"? He will greatly oblige.

J. I.

### An Editor's Warning.

Last week a delinquent subscriber said he would pay up if he lived. He died. Another said: "I will see you tomorrow." He's blind. Still another said, "I'll pay you this week or go to the devil." He's gone. There are hundreds who ought to take warning of these procrastinators and pay up now.—Finley (N. D.) Slope.

## "Do Not Grasp at the Shadow and Lose the Substance."

Many people are but shadows of their former selves; due to neglect of health. Look out for the blood, the fountain of life, the actual substance; keep that pure by regular use of Hood's Sarsaparilla and robust health will be the result.

Dyspepsia, weakness, and other worries will be things of the past and life will be worth living.

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George W. Bennum, Coolspring, Del.

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Hood's Pills cure liver ills; the non-irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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Contracts have been let for material, and the work of construction, equipping and installation placed in the hands of a competent electrical engineer to be fully completed by June 1st. Having an independent power plant we are prepared to furnish electric power for lighting, heating and other purposes, to our home builders at most reasonable rates.

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China Closets In Golden Oak, Parlor Tables,  
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